

After Sunday school we heard a sermon from Bro. R. E. Plummer, followed by Bro. J. P. Wolfe. About one o'clock p. m. we started for home, a distance of about ten miles. After getting snugly fixed in our seat we observed a good substantial lunch; thanks, sister Ebe.

B. G. FREDERICK.

March 12th, 1888.

#### Oakville, Ind.

As I have not written for the paper for quite awhile, nor seen anything from this place, I thought I would write again to let the people know we have not forsaken our dear Master, but are as much interested in the cause as when we first began.

We still have our prayer meeting every Thursday evening. They are attended by a majority of the members. Some live out in the country a good distance, so when the weather is bad they do not get here often. Our regular meetings are on Saturday evening before the first Sunday, Sunday and Sunday evening. Bro. J. H. Swihart is our minister. He proclaims the word of God in such plain language that every one is able to understand it.

We haven't had a protracted meeting here for quite awhile. Bro. Swihart held a few meetings here about the first of February, in which one person confessed the Lord. Think there would have been more could he have stayed longer, but matters were such that he couldn't.

Our family has been made very sad, by giving the parting hand to a dear brother and loving son, who has left us, and gone to the far west. Although we hear from him it is very lonesome without him, and if it be the will of God that we see him here no more, I pray that it may be His will for us to meet him in heaven.

Hoping that all Christian people will remember the members at Oakville in their prayers, I will close.

BERTHA E. JOHNSON.

March 20th, 1888.

#### Carleton, Neb.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—I have been looking from week to week for a report of the meetings held at this place since Bro. DeBolt has come among us. Fearing that no one will give you the news for your next issue, I will state briefly as follows:

Our revival here continued about one month from the 18th of Jan. We closed with over a half hundred persons who had professed conversion. A week later Bro. DeBolt commenced meetings at Davenport, a growing town near this place and I suppose has been so wrapped up in his work that he has not been able yet to write his "impressions of Nebraska." His meetings are going on gloriously with over a score of converts at this writing, some coming forward every night.

The statistics at this writing of the Carleton, Brethren church are as follows: Old members, 22; new members, by baptism, 30; new members, by relation, 4; qualified for baptism, 8; total, 64.

The church was permanently organized March 14th, and next week we promise you a brief history of our church with the minutes of the meeting for organization.

H. M. LIGHTY.

#### Dayton, Ohio.

Our weekly prayer meetings are growing in interest. Last Wednesday evening we met at brother Daniel Eversole's, No. 29 Morrison Street, East Dayton. Next Wednesday evening, the Lord willing, we will meet at the residence of brother Aaron Protzman, Wolf Creek Pike, West Dayton. The attendance is very good, beyond our expectation. The younger members are taking a very active part in these services. Some of the older members will do well to follow their example. Brother Mason when at home and others are cordially invited to attend. Your presence and influence should not be withheld. "Let your light so shine \* \* \* and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Growth in grace and the cultivation of the fruit of the Spirit, love, joy, peace, etc., are the objects sought by the brethren in these meetings. The Lord keep us from evil and incline our hearts to follow him in love and humility.

LATER.—This day were chosen the following officers for the Brethren Sabbath school in the city of Dayton, Ohio. George W. Folkerth, Superintendent; John Eversole, Assistant Superintendent; Charles Protzman, Secretary; Edward Smith, Treasurer.

After the election of Sunday School officers, a proposition for holding services in the Christian church on Broadway, West Dayton, every Sabbath afternoon for an indefinite period was brought before the members for consideration. The proposition was accepted. Easter Sunday, April 1st, at 2:30 p. m., our first service will be held at the above named place. May the Lord meet with us and make the brethren cause a power for good, both in the promulgation of the gospel and the salvation of souls.

After reading a part of the 37 Psalm, prayer, one word of exhortation, doxology and benediction, Mr. Elmer E. Moore and Miss Lizzie Earnst were united in marriage. Thus ended the forenoon of the last Sunday in March, 1888.

N. B. Services by the brethren in East Dayton, Dover Block, corner 5th, st., and Wayne Avenue every Sabbath morning at 9:30 and 10:30, in the Christian church on Broadway, West Dayton every Sabbath afternoon at 2:30. To any or all of these services all are cordially invited.

S. KIEHL.

March 26, 1888.

#### Fairview, Ind.

Closed meetings in South Bend last Wednesday, March 14th, with thirteen applicants. Ten were baptized; one by relation. The South Bend church is in good condition and I hope it may remain so.

Am now preaching at Fairview seven miles west from South Bend. Had a crowded house last night. Owing to lateness of the season I do not expect to do much here. I have observed that in most places good working weather is a poor time to do much for the Lord.

I will start back to Dakota about the first of April. Many thanks to the numerous friends along my line of travels for substantial tokens of good will.

J. H. WORST.

#### Masontown, Pa.

Last Sunday, March 18th, I assisted the brethren on Middle Run to organize a Sabbath school. It was easily accomplished. The attendance was large. All were eager for the work. A good school is expected. God be praised! Officers elected: B. F. Lilly, Superintendent; J. B. Norman, Assistant; Anna J. Brown, Recording Secretary; Lissa Kiffle, Treasurer. M. M. STERLING.

#### Memoriam.

From a private source, I have just learned that our old brother Joseph M. Thomas has fallen asleep, and by request I will give the readers of the EVANGELIST the benefit of my knowledge of Bro. Thomas, as a citizen, a neighbor and as a Christian gentleman.

Joseph M. Thomas was one of the nine (9) sons of Michael and Anna Thomas. He was born in Fayette County, Pa., Nov. 26th, 1807. Died in Adams County, Ohio, January 29th, 1888. Aged 80 years, 2 months, and 3 days.

Thus passed away one with whom I was intimately acquainted for 37 years, and in all those years we never differed to my recollections in the least degree, in religion, in church polity, in morals nor in politics. At our last meeting in 1880, we talked about these peculiar facts, peculiar because we both had the name of being somewhat contentious, and we concluded that our peculiar harmony of views was owing to the fact that both were honest, and willing to allow all men the enjoyment of their natural rights, without question as to their motive. So long as such exercise and enjoyment of rights did not abridge any other person's rights.

Bro. Thomas raised a large family, in Fayette Co., Pa., and in the year 1863, he moved to Adams Co., Ohio, where his companion preceded him to the spirit world some years ago. He was a member and deacon in the German Baptist church for over half a century. But he condemned the polity of that church in the vehemence of his soul after the Arnold's Grove A. M., and he lived after that time in full accord with the polity of the Brethren church, in whose faith he died in triumphant hope of a blessed immortality. "An honest man is the noblest work of God." Such was brother Thomas. He had fixed and well defined principles and was always ready to express them.

Always a strong advocate of total abstinence from all intoxicating drink; always an uncompromising enemy to human bondage in the shape of the African slavery of the South; always on the side of human freedom and progress, and in his very nature could do no other way than condemn the Arnold's Grove acts of 1882. But his work is done; with him the fight is over. Another good man gone to his reward. Oh let us also be ready when the Lord comes, "whether it be morn or night."

P. J. BROWN.

Nat. Mil. Home, Ohio.

#### OUR CHURCH.

Bro. Garber was at South Bend, Ind., last Sunday.

Bro. J. A. Miller was at Peru, Ind., when last heard from.

Bro. Perry preached at the College last Sunday. Subject, "The royalty of Christ."

Bro. Deffenbaugh is at Washington C. H. Ohio. Will soon leave there for other fields.

Bro. A. A. Cober speaks for himself this week and tells something of his work in Indiana.

Bro. Kilhefner was at Gratis, Ohio, when last heard from. He was working hard but not discouraged.

Bro. P. J. Brown stopped off on his way home from Bear Creek on the 19th and remained for a day or two.

Bro. H. E. Faidley occupies the pulpit in the M. E. church, in Burr Oak, on Sunday evening, while their minister attends conference. This is quite neighborly.

We think Bro. Vittum, of Columbus, would find a good church home in Fairview church, near Washington C. H., Ohio. It was organized by Eld. A. J. Hixson before he went to Kansas.

The following are items clipped from The Davenport Nebraska Telegraph, of March 16th, regarding our Bro. Geo. W. DeBolt, Carleton's pastor:

If Rev. DeBolt preaches in Davenport much longer a larger church building will be necessary to accommodate the increasing congregations.

It every mother in America could have heard Rev. DeBolt's sermon to mothers there would be great reformation in the rising generation. Tonight he will preach to fathers, and we may expect him to bear on pretty hard. We need it.

Several people were up from Carleton to attend Rev. DeBolt's sermon Sunday afternoon.

#### Come, Let us Reason Together

BY E. A. ORR.

"Straws show which way the wind blows," is old, but each day brings new applications of it. Men's preaching and writing tell what is dear to their hearts. A "hobby rider" finds confirmation for his "hobby" in every thing that comes under his observation. To sensible people it is always sad to see men who ought to make better use of their talents, devote them to "hobby riding." This "hobby" colors all our conversation, in public or private. If this "hobby" was as broad as "the truth as it is in Jesus," it would be difficult to ride it to death, but it is some side issue, generally, about which the Bible itself is as silent as the grave. However, if one who is cursed by being under constant influence of one of the "hobby" riders, does not keep his eyes open and study the Word of God for himself, he will find himself believing that the proof of said "hobby" is found on every page of the Bible. That it is established by "many infallible proofs." I believe I would be inside the truth to say that not only individuals and congregations, but whole denominations are hoodwinked by just such pressing some things "beyond measure." All such work is belittling, and whoever engages in it must sooner or later lose all power for good over all right-thinking people.

When it begins to be said, "That fellow is 'going to seed' on this question; he is mad; he is cranky," it is time we begin to look around to see if really we are the only intelligent and honest people in the world. "Maybe possibly, some others besides myself are walking in the light of truth." "Maybe as wise as I am and as long as I have lived, some things have escaped my shrewd eye." It is one thing to

say, "Let us reason together," and quite another to do so. Tom Paine could use that phrase as well as any one; and I am sorry to say he is not the only one who has abused it.

How common it is for writers for the GOSPEL MESSENGER to try to prove their position by "the Bible as understood by our Brotherhood." Now what does this mean? To me it can only mean one of two things. First, that we are not willing to let the matter stand or fall by the Bible alone, but by the Bible and something more, called, the "Bible as understood," etc. Or, secondly, that we understand the Bible better than any one else. The first position not a writer of the GOSPEL MESSENGER will allow. But what about the second? To assume the second leads to one or both of two other conclusions. First, that we are the only honest people who study the Bible, at least; that we are more honest than any one else. Or, secondly, that we are wiser, more intelligent than any or all others.

Now, good brother, you who so often have used this phrase, do you really think we have more sincerity than some others? Do you think we know more about the Bible than others? Now do you? Does it sound well for a people who profess so much love for the Bible to talk about proving things by the Bible with an "as" added to it? "Come, let us, reason together."—Gospel Messenger.

#### Hide not Thy Talent.

Hide not thy talent; trade with it, and thou shalt bring in good interest to thy Lord and Master. To speak for God will be refreshing to ourselves, cheering to saints, useful to sinners, and honoring to the Savior. Dumb children are an affliction to their parents.

If thou canst not speak with trumpet tongue, use the still small voice. If the pulpit is not thy tribune, if the press may not carry on its wings thy words, yet say with Peter and John "Silver and gold have I none, but such I have give I unto thee." By Sychar's well talk to the Samaritan woman, if thou canst not on the mountain preach a sermon; utter the praises of Jesus in the house, if not in the temple; speak them forth in the field, if not in the exchange; talk of them in the midst of thine own household if thou canst not in the midst of the great congregation of men. Lord "open thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise."—Spurgeon.

#### Earnest Piety.

Are you young? Be not wise in your own conceit. Count not surely on a long life. Let not the thoughts of an early death dishearten you. Be true to yourself, to your friends, and to God. Live unto him who has bought you with his blood. Live by faith on the Son of God. Let your prayers be frequent and fervent. Lay up your treasure in heaven. Walk as Jesus walked, and leave all results with God.

Are you in middle life? Is the burden of cares heavy? Cast it upon the Lord. Be of good courage. Trust in the Lord, and do good. Be not shaken at the stern realities of life. Rise above low and carnal views of things. Do your duty unflinchingly. Glorify Christ in your body and in your spirit, which are his.—Sel.